

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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TELETYPE UNIT ☐ COLLECT ☐
 OF TO

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Origin
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ACTION:

Eyes Only

Ambassy BANGKOK	731	NIACT	DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/INT DATE DECLASSIFIED IN PAR 6 EXEMPTED FROM PA exemptions CLASSIFY as DOWNGRADE TO () S or () C. CADR FOR INFO USUN 1063 EYES ONLY FOR STEVENSON Ambassy CANBERRA 279 NIACT
Ambassy MANILA	489	NIACT	
Ambassy JAKARTA	486	NIACT	
Ambassy WELLINGTON	217	NIACT	
Ambassy TAIPEI	356	NIACT	
Ambassy SEOUL	334	NIACT	
Ambassy PHNOM PENH	310	NIACT	
Ambassy SAIGON	465	NIACT	
Ambassy TOKYO	898	NIACT	
Ambassy KARACHI	661	NIACT	
Ambassy THE TEHRAN	419	NIACT	
Ambassy ANKARA	436	NIACT	
Ambassy ATHENS	468	NIACT	
Ambassy CAIRO	448	NIACT	
Ambassy DUBLIN	123	NIACT	
Ambassy ACCRA	547	NIACT	
Ambassy LAGOS	687	NIACT	

4-13-68

ELITE - EYES ONLY

DELIVER FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR HEAD OF GOVERNMENT (IN IRAN, VIETNAM, TAIPEI, AND IRELAND CHIEFS OF STATE) AT LOCAL TIME EQUIVALENT TO 6 PM WASHINGTON OCTOBER 22, WASHINGTON EDT.

QUOTE

Dear _____:

I am asking Ambassador _____ to deliver to you personally a copy of a speech I am making tonight, concerning the dangerous developments in Cuba and the action I have authorized.

The evidence that offensive nuclear missile bases have secretly been installed in Cuba by the Soviet Government is accurate beyond question. Moreover, extensive work is in progress for additional bases. Your Ambassador here will be briefed on the details. This Soviet action is

Drafted by:

G- Mr. Alexis Johnson:cpl

Telegraphic transmission and

XXXX

Classification approved by:

Mr. Alexis Johnson

Cleances:

S/S-O:AARabida

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being taken in direct contradiction of Mr. Khrushchev's statements, confirmed to me personally even a few days ago by Foreign Minister Gromyko, that only defensive weapons were being supplied Cuba.

You will recall that I stated publicly a month ago that "if at any time the Communist buildup in Cuba were to... become an offensive military base of significant capacity for the Soviet Union, ~~this~~ then this country would do whatever must be done to protect its own security and that of its ~~allies~~ allies." An immediate nuclear quarantine, therefore, is necessary to prevent further offensive missile installations by the Soviet ~~Govt~~ Government in Cuba. I trust also that this action will lead to the elimination of the offensive missiles already in place.

I have told Mr. Khrushchev that I hope we can resume the path of peaceful negotiations.

I am also requesting an urgent meeting of the United Nations Security Council. I have asked Ambassador Stevenson to present on behalf of the United States a resolution calling for the withdrawal of missile bases and other offensive weapons in Cuba under the supervision of United Nations observers. This would make it possible for the United States to lift its quarantine. I hope that you will instruct your representative in New York to work actively ~~with me and staff~~ forthrightly in support of the above program in the United Nations.

The Department of State will keep your Ambassador informed of all developments. John F. Kennedy UNQUOTE

FOR SEOUL AND SAIGON - Delete penultimate para on Security Council action.

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FOR CANBERRA - Salutation is "Dear Bob" and final sentence penultimate para should read "I hope you will ask Ambassador Plimsoll to work closely with Adlai Stevenson and speak forthrightly, etc."

FOR DUBLIN - Final sentence penultimate para should read "I hope you will ask Mr. Aiken to work closely with Adlai Stevenson and speak ~~forthrightly~~ forthrightly, etc."

FOR ANKARA - To be added in letter to Gursel at end of 3rd paragraph:

"The Soviet Union may, however, be linking its action to certain broader objectives such as Berlin or the question of overseas bases and nuclear deployments at such bases. While I believe the analogy between them and Cuba to be false, I have the problem very much in ~~your~~ mind. I know you will feel free to communicate to me any thoughts which you may have on this."

END

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